

Safeguarding Bulletin 2025-2026

SPRING TERM EDITION 1

Welcome and introduction

The Safeguarding Team has been busy, as always, ensuring that our young people are well supported and can develop a sense of belonging in the College environment.

Thank you very much for your ongoing vigilance and care of our young people – a community approach is very powerful and we are always grateful for the support of parents and carers.

If you would like to contact us during term time about any issues that are worrying you, please email: thinkpink@lintonvc.org or if you have a concern during the school closure, please email safeguarding@anglianlearning.org.

Wishing you all a well-deserved rest over the half-term break.

Mrs Louise Keen – Director of Safeguarding, Designated Safeguarding Lead

Inger Madsen – Certified EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) Practitioner has delivered online sessions to parents on **parenting anxious teenagers and on conflict resolution**. Inger will be delivering further sessions throughout the year.

Features and Updates

This edition of the Safeguarding Bulletin features: information on **Incel language** to help **parents stay current and vigilant**, news about **work on anti-bullying** and an update on the College's approach to **mental health and wellbeing**.

Are you conversant with the language used in terms of the **Incel** online sub-culture?

Incels are self-defined '**involuntary celibates**', who believe that they are unable to form sexual relationships with women due to a combination of their looks and their perception of societal structures.

Some terms to consider are listed here and could help adults to identify if young people are involved in this sub-culture.

'Pilling' and belief in the Incel worldview

The terms 'red pill' and 'blue pill' refer to a choice between the willingness to learn a potentially unsettling or life-changing truth by taking the red pill, or remaining in contented ignorance with the blue pill. In the incel subculture the pills represent:

- Blue Pill:** means remaining ignorant to the 'real world' experienced by incels.
- Red Pill:** means 'waking up' to the real world, where women have an advantage and female oppression is a myth.
- Black pill:** means that they adhere to ideas behind the 'Red Pill', but don't believe that society will change or that incels lives can be improved.

Parents and carers will now have received information about the next wave of mental health screening that will be rolled out in March.

This time, we will be arranging for all students to take part in the **Artemis A mental health screener** and this will take place in school, so that we are able to capture how all students are feeling in terms of their own mental health.

This will allow us to offer appropriate, timely support to those students who may need it.

Safeguarding/mental health-based assemblies this half term

This half term, as part of Children's Mental Health Week, we have conducted an assembly that focused on the theme of belonging. This chimed perfectly with the Anglian Learning initiative, Belonging By Design, and aimed to foster an awareness of what it is that makes students feel that they belong at Linton Village College. Students were able to explore this idea further during Tutor Time.



Anti-bullying update

We have re-scheduled the date for our students to undergo training in anti-bullying. We will be asking students to express their interest in getting involved in anti-bullying and hope to recruit a broad cross-section of students so that the student population is well represented.

Our new date is 29th April 2026, and we are very excited about this big step forward in getting students involved in helping to tackle bullying.



Making a referral to social care

Anyone can make a referral to social care. Ideally, this should be done via the county in which the referee lives. If this is unknown, the county of the referrer should be used.

For **Cambridgeshire**, [click here](#)

For **Essex**, [click here](#)

For **Suffolk**, [click here](#)